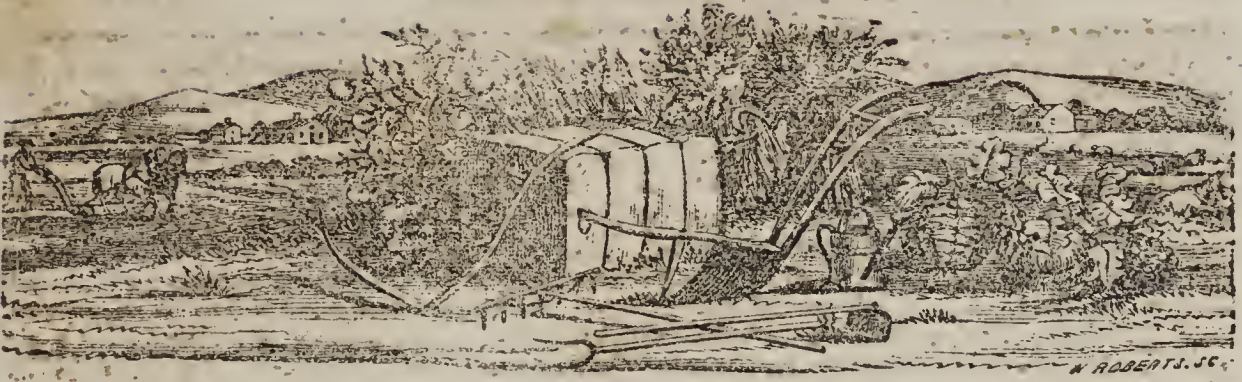


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# FARMER AND PLANTER.

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, DOMESTIC AND RURAL ECONOMY,

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## AN ESSAY

On the Cultivation of Fruit at the South.

BY J. VAN BUREN,

(OF CLARKSVILLE, GEORGIA)

To the Executive Council of the  
Southern Planters' Convention:

What has been said in relation to the profitable investment of a few dollar in the purchase of Apple and Pear trees, we trust is sufficient, without going through the like process of demonstration in relation to other varieties of fruit, to which all that has been said can with propriety be applied.

As most of this Essay has been thus far devoted to the benefit of those, who expect a dime for every blossom on their trees, and who perceive no beauty in anything except as combined with utility, and who have no idea of utility, save by the quantity of dollars and cents produced, we think we should be remiss in our duty or treating that portion of our Horticultural brethren cavalierly whose efforts, predictions, and wishes are of a higher grade than the preceding class, were we to dismiss this subject without giving them a portion of our notice.

No article is of greater importance than fruit, as a means of sustenance, and good health; we of the South are too carnivorous in habits, to enjoy high health, in Polar climes concentrated carbonaceous food in the form of fat and oils is necessary to feed the furnaces generating animal heat, life



could not be sustained without it; but here, in our torrid clime the reverse is required, and nature is arranged so as to tempt us on in the right way. The seal and the whale is the fruit of the farmer, whilst the Orange and the melon that of the latter. Were we to abandon our hog and hoe-cake for a larger portion of vegetable diet, there is little doubt, but fevers would be more rare, as well as docter bills, and that all would enjoy better health; Humanity to ourselves and those about us, calls upon us to provide abundantly of this cheapest and most healthfull diet, which providence in wisdom has made accessible to all with moderate effort. To the man of fortune and leisure, to the brown cheeked farmer and planter, to the professional man, and to the mechanic, what more delightful moments of recreation are there than those devoted to the cultivation of fruits and flowers; we belong to one of that class whose brow has been moistened with the sweat of years, and if our testimony is anything worth, it is that, the hours thus spent, are the greenest spots on earth, amidst its cares perplexities and sorrows. And besides these happy hours thus spent, there is another hallowed effect produced, which is, it creates within us an attachment to places, or in the language of Phrenology, it fosters the organ of locality, or love of home; where is the man who has been in the habit of decorating his home, with trees, shubery, and flowers, that partakes of the spirit of the cosmopolite? he never leaves the spot his taste has thus adorned through choice, but is content and happy, to see his children like young olive plants about his table, and to instil into their minds the virtuous sentiments peculiar to him alone who delights to engage in the absorbing occupation of a Horticulturist. The cultivation of the ground in any form, save that of skinning it, for a few bags of cotton, has the tendency to soften the asperities of our nature, and to render us more patriotic and humane than any other avocation we can engage in, and also more ready to vindicate the rights of ourselves, neighbors, and country; "the nations strength slumbers in the peasants arm."

Let him who has in early life been a cultivator of the soil, forsake it through the rugged cares incident to manhood, with what a mellow zest does he return to the habits of his youth in old age; at that stage of our existence we have to enter into more intimate

communion with maternal earth, as if by doing so we were commingling our dust with hers, before its spirit was ready for its flights to the regions of the blessed.

It is said that the American people were a race of rovers; and not without a semblance of cause; that cause is the inordinate and all pervading love of money; it breaks up and sunders every attachment to places, and things, and leaves us with the wide and cold world for a home; few ever reflect that there are other and higher joys than that of getting money, with most it is the *Summum Bonum*. This defect has become stamped upon our national character, both from habit, and the erroneous belief that it is the essential ingredient to virtue, intelligence, respectability, and moral worth.

This sordid eagerness to acquire wealth, with the loss of true happiness, should be subdued and softened down, and other and nobler sentiments cherished and inculcated.

Nothing has a more potent tendency to accomplish this, than to spend a portion of our time, to improvement in Nature's fine arts, and amongst which the cultivation of the beautiful, picturesque and the sublime are of right enumerated.

He who engages in these occupations, carries with him a holy and happy influence which like the dew upon the flowers, causes their fragrance to regale the senses of all who approach them; so his example is partaken of by all who come in contact with him and in the scar and yellow leaf of old age, he goes down to the grave blest and mourned by all; with monuments behind him, whose budding leaves, blowing flowers and blushing fruits bear testimony that here lies one who was a benefactor to man on Earth.

For the Farmer and Planter.

Fair Play.

MEASRS. EDITORS:—I have carefully read the November number of your valuable paper, I acknowledge the great utility of agricultural productions, but there is one great deficiency in such works, it is that we have too little from the real practical Farmers of the South and too much from theorists, and those anxious to bring into notice some favourite seed, by which they might dupe the unsuspecting farmer—or to gull him by selling at an enormous price a valueless hog, cow, &c. &c. In fact he makes use of the



pages of a popular agricultural work, to advertise his articles which he may purchase have for sale. I regard this as downright imposition, and should not be tolerated by the publishers of such papers. I subscribed for, and read attentively for ten years a popular paper devoted to agriculture, published at the South. I became so thoroughly disgusted with the many impositions practiced upon the Farmer, together with the thousand and one extracts from papers North of Masons and Dixons line, that, I abandoned the paper entirely, and have never subscribed for a similar one, until I was induced by a friend to subscribe for yours—hoping that I may learn some useful lessons from it—Let Southern planters who have sound practical knowledge and know more about the plough handles, than kid gloves, be heard from and if they can clothe themselves in yankee cobwebb tissue they can in good old fashioned homespun language—and my word for it Messrs. Editors your paper must succeed. According to the recommendation made by "Piney Woods" I herewith send you five new subscribers, with the amount of their subscription enclosed.

Yours BEAUFORT DISTRICT.

Jan. 13th 1854.

*From the Southern Cultivator.*

#### Subsoiling.

MESSRS. EDITORS: I noticed in the February number of your valuable journal an article copied from the Columbus Enquirer, signed "Upstate," giving all of you *smoke* about subsoiling. As I have a little experience in that line of farming, I will give it to you, and you may insert it (notwithstanding my great aversion to appearing in print) if you think fit.

Deep subsoiling is the very thing for corn, in any and all kinds of sandy soils. [I do not mean "turning up," for that I have proved, to my sorrow, will not do.] Last year I plowed around my corn with a small subsoil plow, made at my shop, as near like a genuine subsoil plow as I could remember, having never seen but one. It struck my fancy that my sandy lands could be helped with such; and as I had no chance to send for one, had to make them at home. I was very cautious not to allow them to lean either way, as there was danger of cutting the corn roots, and I used them next to the last plowing I gave my corn before laying by, just as close as they could be run to it, and just as

the drought was beginning to do harm. The land is a very light, sandy soil, which my neighbors said was worn out. This was my second crop on it, and I gathered a little *thrice* of twenty-one bushels measured corn to the acre, besides peas, and what the squirrels ate off of it. This looks small by the side of the rich prairie and river bottom lands—but it must be remembered that this is (said to be) "worn out land," and the first experiment. What satisfies me that the subsoiling is what made my corn, is, that one of the very neighbors that ridiculed my "fancy notion," made an entire failure on the same kind of land, where nothing but a lane divides us.

My mode of farming differs from every one in my neighborhood; therefore I am the general laughing-stock for all—but I think the smiles are vanishing, and turning to astonishment and wonder. Last year my farm was visited from several quarters; and it was given up by all that my crop could not be surpassed. I do not claim to be a farmer, but I desire to make myself one, and think I shall, if your very useful paper lives, to which I am much indebted for my success in the main, so far.

Before I close, let me say that I would like to hear, from some one who knows from experience, if green rye will do for pigs and young hogs to graze on all the time in winter.

I am a great hand for experimenting. I have now nine different kinds of corn, three of cotton, two of oats, and four kinds of manure, viz: cotton seed in a ground up state, rotten wood and ashes, stable manure and soapsuds, cotton and stable manure, all mixed and well rotted. I apply manure to all my lands, rich and poor, corn and cotton throughout; and at the close of the present year, or about harvest time, I will begin to give any that may wish it, more of my experience in farming. I do not want to say any thing further until I try these experiments on one more crop.

No more, at present, from your friend and subscriber on

BEAR CREEK.

Tuscaloosa county, Alabama, May, 1852.

*Paralysis.*—It is said that one of the most distinguished physicians of New England ascribes the fearful increase of cases of paralysis, to the use of stoves in close rooms, particularly in sleeping apartments.



*From the Southern Cultivator.***Thoughts on the Culture of Cotton**

Messrs. Editors: There is no branch of agriculture which merits a larger share of attention than the culture of cotton. Its importance to the preservation of the peace of the world, as well as its importance to those who grow it, would seem enough to concentrate public attention to its culture, and inspire men of competent qualifications with an inclination to try experiments in the mode of its cultivation, with the view of protecting themselves from the frequent disasters which now destroy their crops. The experience of the last few years proves, beyond cavil, the supreme folly of adhering to the old system of culture, when it has lost its adaptation to the seasons. It is a historical fact, that countries become colder as the primeval forests are cleared up and the land put in cultivation. This is true of the seasons in the cotton States. Our climate is annually changing and approximating to that of Northern Alabama. Planters are now exposed to mishaps which were unknown to them ten years ago. This spring may be regarded as a type of future seasons, and as showing the numerous trials and drawbacks to which farmers will hereafter be subjected; yet I by no means design to be understood as saying that it will be exactly similar in all respects. There is diversity in all animate and inanimate things; and there is a marked diversity apparent when we compare two seasons together. The past winter was remarkably cold, but about the middle of February the weather became serene and mild, vegetation was rapidly developed, and planters pushed forward their preparations with emulous eagerness. They planted corn in defiance of the experience of the last few years, and until the 17th of March they seemed to have adopted the wisest course, as the weather was balmy and the corn thrifty and growing. But the wind shifted round to the North, the weather became bitingly cold, and the ground was completely frozen. Since that time we have had an occasional spell of good weather, whose influence on the crop was neutralized by heavy rains, accompanied with both wind and hail.

Is it not strange that men, whose success is so much dependent on the seasons, should be content to plod on without any effort to note the changes of the seasons? Were they to note the period when vegeta-

tion developed itself; mark the various drawbacks that occurred from seed time to harvest; and contrast one year with another, it does seem to me that they might escape many vexatious disasters, and raise larger crops. We would pronounce a farmer who should plant corn in Virginia in February a fit subject for Bedlam; yet, notwithstanding the seasons have been so materially changed even since 1840, there are those among us who conceive that they would be irreparably ruined, were they not to plant corn before the first of March. Is there any more rationality in their course than that of the Virginia farmer? Let the repeated destruction of their crops by frost declare the folly of such a system.

I assume, as a fair deduction from the previous observations, that cotton ought not, even where the land is prepared, to be planted prior to the 5th or sixth of April. As a general thing the spring rains are over by this time; the ground becomes warm enough to make the seed sprout in a few days, and the weather balmy enough to make it grow off just as soon as it comes up. I hail it as a favorable omen, that this opinion, once so much scouted, is gaining ground, as year after year shows that late planting is more certain to secure a good stand of cotton, and that the cotton is less liable to be stunted by bad weather, or destroyed by insects. Nor should the ground be prepared too soon where there is abundance of team, as it then becomes weedy and is covered with a hard incrustation before the cotton gets up. In such a case, the land has to be thoroughly broken up anew, before the cotton can grow off, or the land be worked to advantage. For verification of this fact, if any were necessary, I might appeal to the personal experience of every observant farmer.

Just as soon as the cotton is well up, the harrow should be run close to the drill, and a sweep put behind it to re-open the water-furrow. Harrows are preferable, because they are not half as apt to cover up cotton as sweeps—they sift the dirt among it better, drag the clods and stalks from the cotton, and leave the ground in admirable order for subsequent working. Deep plowing in light and porous soils is too exhaustive of the nutrition which feeds the plant, and on that account should never be attempted, unless in very wet seasons. In weedy land, or where a hard crust is apt to be formed on the bed, it is best to run the bar of a turn-



ing plow close to the cotton, and throw the dirt into the water furrow. This mode of plowing greatly facilitates "chopping out," and renders the land loose and pleasant to cultivate during the rest of the season. We rarely bring cotton to a perfect stand the first working, unless the weather is peculiarly mild and serene; but from the 1st of April to the 5th of May, we thin it, in accordance with the fertility of the land. It is generally agreed that late plowing makes cotton shed "shed off" the bulk of the squares and blooms which it may have on it.

Respectfully yours, A. W. DILLARD.  
*Sunter county, Ala., May, 1852.*

*New Agricultural Invention.*—Scarcely a month passes by that some new implement or invention to aid the planter is not brought out by the ingenuity of American minds. Letters from the interior are frequently addressed to us asking for information as to where such tools can be had, or such machines purchased. So far, we have had the generosity to answer them and thus throw business into the hands of our agricultural warehouses, but not one of them have seen proper to hand in an advertisement to the Southern Organ, the only paper in the city that devotes its columns specially to agricultural pursuits.

After throwing considerable business into the hands of one of our agricultural merchants in this city, we politely solicited his advertisement and was repulsed with marked coldness.

We therefore advertise our friends in the country that we shall in future answer all their inquiries with a free good will, and even procure articles for you just for your sakes, but hold in contempt the men who have not sense enough to see their own interests by advertising, and who are too stingy to aid the press that is conferring such undeserved favors upon them. We have many inquiries too about seeds, and in several instances have procured them for our friends, but our seedsmen and nurserymen are so narrow minded in their views, that they think it useless to advertise in a paper specially devoted to their interests. Well, we can live without it.—*Southern Organ.*

*For your Cattle and Horses*—Mix occasionally one part of salt with four parts of wood ashes, and give the mixture to different kinds

of stock, summer and winter. It promotes their appetites and tends to keep them in a healthy condition. It is said to be good against bots in horses, murrain in cattle and rot in sheep.

#### To Brooinsedge, the Reviewer.

DEAR SIR:—In your review of the Oct. No. of the Farmer and Planter, I see you have handled my Rescue without mercy, you have given it the "unkindest cut of all" called it humbug, and my article about it, a hoax, burlesque, sheer nonsense &c.

In great extremity I can but exclaim in the words of Mark Antony over the dead body of Cæsar "Oh judgement thou art fled to brutish beasts and men have lost their reason," Oh my Dear Sir, when did you prove my grass a humbug. When and how did you ascertain that my article about it was a hoax. When and how did you prove by actual experiment that my grass will not do what I have said it will; My Friend how many great inventions, how many important improvements your simple humbug, has lost to mankind. How many great and good men have spent their lives to bless mankind and died without a thank. The invaluable cotton gin was at first derided. The steam Boat was laughed at yet can you set the true value of these two inventions.—Let this suffice.—For I desire to have a friendly talk with you about my incomparable "Rescue." You say lawyers have said that the most dangerous witness in the world is he who proves too much, you fear it is so with the Rescue. My grass has all the properties given it by me, which I am well fortified with proof to show. It would be very hard to squeeze blood out of a turnip I acknowledge, I never have possessed that power, but I have the power to prove that, I possess a winter grass which will graze Horses, Mules, Cattle, Sheep, Goats, Hogs, and Poultry from November to June, yea more which will keep them fat, throughout that period. I have the proof to show that then (the stock being withdrawn and the ground equal) it will yield as much hay per acre, yea more than Timothy, clover, or the Blue Grass of Kentucky. I have the proof to show that it is as nutritious as either of them yea more that it is as much so as Barley, and that stock are as fond of it as they are of that, I have the proof that it will do well in any kind of soil in the South and that it will reclaim worn out fields yea



more, that when followed with our cornfield pea it gives to farmers and planters, the cheapest, the easiest the simple the quickest and the most paying plan to reclaim worn out fields, and to refertilize, those not yet, so which the ingenuity of man can devise. Further I have the proof to show that my grass is never injured by cold, yea more that it stands our hot sun, I have the proof to show that it does not spread or run, so as to be difficult to get rid of, yea more, that it can be easily and efficiently destroyed at any stage, before its seeds are ripe by being ploughed up or under. And lastly I have the proof to show that it requires to be sowed but once, ever after reproducing itself (through its seeds) *ad infinitum*, yea more, that it is an annual and its roots die in the same way as wheat or rye. Broom-sedge and myself may differ about worn out fields. I have never yet seen a cleared field which would not produce vegetation of some kind. I do distinctly say and I have the proof to show, that if the field will produce at all then my grass will reclaim it single handed but if followed with the pea, it will soon make it produce as well, yea, better than it ever did, and that for ages to come. Broom-sedge and myself may differ about the atmosphere. I believe it the great Reservoir which supplies the earth and the vegetation with fertilization. The grand *purse* furnishing but very little organic food strictly speaking. This is the decided opinion of the most eminent, practical agriculturists and chemists of the age. My grass and the pea extract from the one and return to the other more Nitrogen, (the chief support of vegetation) than any two other productions, having equal remunerative properties. I do say therefore without the least reservation, that my grass is "the very thing of all things in the world we want," a perfect "God send" under the euphonic title of "Rescue." And I do say farther, that it is worth more to the farmers and planters of the South, than all the gold of California, if every particle of it was obtained, and run into dollars and equally divided amongst them. Your ob't. serv't. B. V. IVERSON.

This grass has the following valuable qualities, which four years experience has abundantly demonstrated:

1st. It has the largest grain of any known species of grass, being nearly as large as wheat.

2nd. It will grow (on very rich ground)

from three to four feet high.

3rd. It is never injured by cold—no freeze hurts it.

4th. It is never troubled by insects of any kind.

5th. It is never injured or retarded in growing by heavy rains, overflows or ordinary drought.

6th. It grows as fast as Millet or Lucerne.

7th. It is as nutritious as Barley, and stock are as fond of it as they are of that.

8th. It will keep horses, mules, cattle, sheep, goats, hogs, and poultry fat throughout the winter and spring, from November to June.

9th. It will then (the stock being withdrawn, and the ground being rich) yield from four to six tons of excellent hay per acre.

10th. It saves corn and fodder being fed away to the stock during the winter and spring.

11th. It completely protects fields from washing rains.

12th. It enables farmers to have an abundance of rich milk, cream and butter, with fat beef, mutton, kid, pork, turkey, and chicken for their table.

13th. It will (if followed with our cornfield pea) give to farmers the cheapest, the simplest, the surest, and the most paying plan to reclaim worn out fields, and refertilize those not yet so, which the ingenuity of man can devise.

14th. It will sow its own seeds after the first time, without expense or trouble, thereby reproducing itself through its seeds on the same ground *ad infinitum*.

15th. It does not spread or take possession of a field, so as to be difficult to get rid of, but can be effectually destroyed at any stage before the seed ripen and fall out, by being ploughed up, or under.

This grass having the above enumerated properties will be found by all who cultivate it, far superior to any other species ever introduced, or which can be introduced, for the climate and soil of the South. I shall be prepared by July next, to furnish seed of this valuable grass to all who desire to cultivate it. My price is \$5 per peck, which is as much as is necessary to begin with; it being distinctly understood that in every instance where the party is not satisfied (after giving it a fair trial) the price shall be returned.

B. V. I.



*From the Laurensville Herald.*  
**Peas and Broomsedge.**

MR. EDITOR: Although many are aware of the fact it may not generally be known that the pea succeeds better after turning under broomsedge, as a first crop, than any other cultivated plant. Corn and even cotton, as most of your readers have doubtless seen, will do but little as a first crop after turning under broomsedge, but peas will grow more luxuriantly than anywhere else, unless perhaps in new-ground. As there are now a great many old fields thickly set with broomsedge, that will soon be brought back into cultivation, I think some good plan of reclaiming them a matter of some importance. I will offer a plan, and it may go for what it is worth—let those who can, offer a better. It is this turn under you broomsedge with a two-horse plow to a depth of six or seven inches, as early in the winter as you can find leisure to do it, so that the surface may be mellowed by the frosts. Sometime during the month of May sow it with peas and scratch them in lightly, so as not to disturb the grass sod below. Or, if you think the ground will be too foul, drill them in rows about three feet apart, so that you may run a furrow or two between. In either case, take care and do not disturb the sod below. On this last plan I have now growing the best peas I have on my farm.—A few rows of corn were planted on the same ground; but, as I expected, they are a perfect failure.

Where the peas are ripe the hogs may be allowed to eat them off, but no other stock should be allowed to enter. In the spring of the year following lay off the ground with a scooter or shovel furrow for cotton. Into this furrow scatter your compost manure, or guano, if you please, and cover with a twister—after which finish your bed in the usual manner. After the cotton is up, let the culture be with the hoe and sweep.—I think it would be best not to bring up the grass sod from below. Such is the plan I intend to pursue, and I expect to find my land afterwards in good heart, and ready for any judicious course of cropping. If any one knows a better course, I hope he will let it be known through your columns, before cotton planting time. I intended when I commenced this to offer a theory to explain why the pea which is a broad-leaved succulent plant, thrives well after broomsedge, which is a very narrow-leaved and dry plant; but

cannot now for want of room and want of time. I presume there are but few of your readers who will feel an interest in this part of the subject. If any do, and will make the call through your columns, I will try to respond. I do not promise to throw much light upon it, but if it excites discussion, that may enlighten us. I tried a year or two ago through your paper to draw something from "Broomsedge" himself upon it but he was then too much taken up with his monthly criticisms to attend to so small a matter. I trust, if I attempt the task, he will spare me.

FRANKLIN.

**Diseases of Cattle.**

**Cholic**—One pint of linseed oil, mixed with  $1\frac{1}{2}$  oz. laudanum. **Diarrhea**—Give half an ounce of powdered catechu, 10 grains of powdered opium, in a little gruel. **Hove or hoven**—Use the elastic tub; as a preventive, let them be supplied with common salt, and restrained from rapid feeding when first feeding on rank grass or clover. **Mange**—Half a pound of black brimstone, quarter of a pint of turpentine, one pint of train oil. Mix them together, and rub the mixture well in over the affected parts.—**Milk fever or garget**—Two ounces of brimstone, two ounces of diapente, one ounce of cummin seed powdered, one ounce of powdered nitrate. Give this daily in a little gruel, and well rub the udder with a little goose grease. **Mucrain**—Half a pound of salt, two ounces of bruised coriander seed, one ounce of gentian powder; give these in a little water. Poisons swallowed by oxen are commonly the pew, the water dropwort, and the common and the water hemlock; one and a half pint of linseed oil is the best remedy. **Purge for poisoning**—Either one pound of salts in a quart of water-gruel, or a pint to a pint and a half of linseed oil. **Sprains**—Embrocation; one ounce of sweet oil, four ounces of spirits of hartshorn, half ounce of oil of thyme. **Sting of the adder or slow worm**—Apply immediately strong spirits of hartshorn. For sting of bees, apply chalk or whiting mixed with vinegar.—**To take film from a horse's eye**—Blow loaf sugar and a little salt into the inflamed eye, and in most cases it will be relieved. Sassafras buds pounded, and put in water, to stand till it becomes nearly as thick as cream, applied to the eye, is an excellent remedy for inflammation. **To relieve cholic in horses**—Rub spirits of turpentine on the



breast of the horse; and if he be drenched with it he will be relieved. Horses should never be put to severe work on a full stomach; more horses are hurt by hard driving after a full feed than a full feed after hard driving.

*For the Farmer and Planter.*

### Florida, as it Appeared in 1853.

BY ABBEVILLE.

[Continued from page 21.]

The Cabbage Palmetto becomes conspicuous growing to considerable height, where the lands are of a moist, close character. The hammocks are generally good alluvians, presenting a kind of high-land jungle, the growth white oak, live oak, beach, magnolia, red bay, and several species of ash and cherry. In some of these hammocks, marle-rock crops out, in which are lime sinks and subterranean galleries, caves and streams of water. We saw, about half-a mile off the road, to the right, near mid-way between Palatka and Orange Spring, a fine sulphur spring.—We crossed a running stream called Deep Creek, if we remember right, the water of which was of a brownish, or peaty hue.—Orange Spring, is a noted Sulphur Spring, smells strong at some considerable distance, small fish and terrapins in great numbers sport in its waters, which are as clear as the atmosphere, and even clearer; we had no means to ascertain the temperature, or test in any way. The house is kept by Mr. Durbeck, well known in the upper part of our State, open, polite and attentive; we spent a pleasant night on our return at this place. The lands between Orange Spring and Ocala, are similar in character to those already passed. Ocala has a court house, small jail, a Baptist and Methodist Church, a public house, four or five stores, lawyers and doctors plenty as elsewhere. The village is situated on rising ground, dry and sandy. There is a newspaper published here, equal to most other village papers.—As yet there is not much neatness, or appliances for comfort, the people are hospitable, open, and kind in their manners to strangers, of whom they see plenty in this time of unrest. There is also a small steam saw-mill. The lands are pretty good around the village, underlating to almost hilly; the out cropping rocks are shell sand-stone; marle-rock also shows itself below the Baptist church. Lime sinks are common, and within four or five miles are extensive caves, said to contain fossils. General Scott kind-

ly offered to conduct us to one of these caves to show us a fossil terrapin, but our time failed us. From all appearances we should conclude this country would be subject to chills and fever, and probably bowel-complaints, and enlargement of the spleen, with little prospect for relief in this climate; diseases of the lungs and pleurisy, we hardly think will originate here. The far famed Silver Springs are six miles from Ocala.—The clearness of the water, its depth and scenic beauty has to be seen, as no pen can write it; as we paddled over it in our frail bark, we appeared to be suspended over a mimic forest of vivid green, and rainbow-tints. Large catfish, alligators and terrapins, are abundant in this chrystal water-garden. Living shells cover the bottom, and aqueous plants spread their foliage on the surface. This spring is the head and source of the Ocalawaha river. A small sort of steamer runs up here and takes cotton and other produce to the St. Johns river. There are two stores here, and one or two more going up. This may be a place of some importance ere long.

We paid a visit to Mr. Calwell's plantation near Ocala, when the making of sugar had just commenced, this farm is a mixed one of sugar, cotton, and corn, all of which is pretty good, the sugar was mostly ratoon crop (that is from the last year's stubble) and we think not as good as if planted. The sugar made is good and fair in quality—worth here about five cents per lb. The appearances of thrift and good management showed as well on this farm, as any we saw in Florida. From Ocala we passed on to Micanopy in sight of Orange Lake, which is girdled with orange groves, the lake is fast sinking, and may at some day not far distant off in time, become a dry plain, or savanna, of rich land. The orange groves are on very rich, dark soil. The bark louse, one of the coccidæ, spares not this non-cultivated, beautiful tree. The vandalic touch of man also aids in the destruction, as we saw many trees cut down ruthlessly to gather the golden fruit. These trees are not native, but were brought here by the early adventurers from the elder world. Bittersweets and sour, are the only kinds in these dense groves. They bear abundantly, and when thinned out and left at good distance in the fields have a rich and pleasing appearance, from the deep green foliage and the pendant golden fruit. The bitter-sweet eats very well, and the sour one is excellent



when mixed with sugar and water as a beverage, cooling and pleasant. One side of the lake presents good bodies of rich hammock lands, adapted to the growth of long staple cotton, sugar, tobacco and corn.—Cotton will yield on these lands, one to two thousand pounds in the seed to the acre, and from 25 to 40 bushels of corn; the ears are generally smaller than on the same kind of soil with us in the upper part of the State. The hammock lands take hard work to clear and prepare for cultivation; pine lands are much easier brought into cultivation, and will give remunerating crops. Good pine lands will yield about five hundred pounds of seed cotton per acre, and ten acres may be cultivated to the hand. One hundred pounds of dry cotton in the seed yields about twenty seven pounds of lint, making one hundred and thirty five pounds per acre; or thirteen hundred and fifty pounds per hand.—One hand can pick this in sixty days work, and in this climate there is five months to pick their cotton. The result of one hand, in cotton at thirty cents, would be four hundred and five dollars, which we think can be done, and make plenty of every thing else for an abundant support. Hogs can be raised here, and meat can be saved, the atmosphere is very drying, and the plan we proposed to ourself to save meat would be as follows: About the first of March kill and clean well; open the hog and hang it up in the shade for twenty-four hours, then take it down, cut it up and salt it well; when it has taken salt, hang it up in a house, built twenty-four feet high, with a shelter over it four feet higher, and extending several feet farther out than the building, so as to entirely shelter the house from the rays of the sun. It should be thoroughly smoked with a little red pepper with the fire. When this is done, pack it away in boxes, placed on feet from the ground, in dry, pulverized charcoal—every crack and crevice carefully filled up. In this manner we think meat can be well managed even in the ardent climate of East-Florida, supplying a plenty of wholesome food for all hands. Beef is a poor diet for negro or white man, in warm climates. Good bacon, bread, and vegetables are the working-man's diet. Fresh beef diet engenders chills and fever, and all its train of constitutional disturbances. It may do well enough for an occasional Sunday dinner. Sweet potatoes, pumpkins, and peas are raised here in perfection, even on

the poor pine lands. Gardens in East Florida are eschewed, we saw scarcely any such a thing. The reason of this, is best known to the people. We feel certain they could have a prodigal profusion of vegetables all winter if they used the means. Milk in East Florida is rather a rare article, in this country no calves die of the *churn disease*.—Cattle are plenty and so is their provender, what is the matter we don't know, it may be they have no time to attend to it, or are too manly for such childish diet. There is no doubt several reasons among the people why there is no milk.

The winter climate is bland and mild, the thermometer in the shade, when we had an opportunity to see one, reached about 85°—prevailing winds are West, and North-east, rarely ever blows from the South; the nights cool, with heavy dews, during our visit, sky generally clear. Extra tropical plants are less liable to be hurt by frosts on the east side of St. John's river, than elsewhere.—Arrow-root succeeds well in this climate, and any quantity of Castor Oil might be raised, as the plants we saw were enormous and well covered with fruit. There is a section of country covered with a species of red pepper, called Homosassa pepper, it has spread over many miles in extent; it makes with vinegar a warm, rather aromatic pickle, much prized by the inhabitants. This originated no doubt in the same manner as the orange groves.

This climate suits the dark-raced man, for it is in a great measure in harmony with his physical constitution. The white man becomes relaxed and loses his energies; nor can he ever colonise this land of *flowers*, in the strict sense of the word—the climate forbids it; he can keep the shade, think for and govern the dark-raced laborer, but with this he must be content, for every travel we take, the fact looms up more distinctly that man is not a cosmopolite. The white man holds southern climes, but as a master, the laborer must be a dark-raced man, adopted by nature to labor under a burning sun, and malarial influences.

Lands have gone up in price rapidly of late, from the influx of foreigners, from ten to fifteen and twenty five dollars an acre, is quite current asking and selling prices for good lands, in the parts we visited, that is Marion and Alachua counties. The lumber business is good every where in this country near streams sufficient for rafting. Turpen-



fine may, ere long, attract some to embark in the business. Moss may be gathered with good remuneration for labor, it is worth three cents a pound, when prepared and carried to the river—it is worth about six cents in Charleston. We think good hands well managed might make fifty dollars per month, as it is very abundant and easy to gather; the preparation of it very simple, and little expense attending its management. Water in this country is not very good for cool, but this can be somewhat remedied.—Water is reached by wells 15 or 20 feet deep. Cultivated grounds are infested with a miserable plant known as cockspar; it is armed with galls all round, and sticks to everything it comes in contact with, in a word it is a garden-ruiner, an entire overmatch for the cuckbur, it annoys the legs of horses and mules as well as men. Stock water is apparently a little scarce, and we think horses and mules suffer a good deal in this respect, but this is only an opinion founded on what we saw in our travel through the country by stage, on the main roads of the country. Micanopy is a small place, situated on rising ground, the soil a deep sand, unpleasant to walk over.

We noticed a pen of old corn neatly put up in what is called slip-shucked condition, most of it was literally cut up into dust by insects; more particularly the white variety. The yellow was much less hurt, from what cause we know not; the fact, if it is a fact, is worthy of notice, as a matter of importance. Fleas and mosquitoes, of all nations, are abundant; our good natured host at Ocala, told us a man would hardly know how to sleep without the company and kindly attentions of these hop-skip and jump little rascals. The negroes are much annoyed by the mosquitoes, particularly the children, whose heads, and all parts uncovered, are pretty well bored and pumped every night during their greatest prevalence. This matter can in a great measure be remedied. House flies are not as abundant here as in South Carolina. Cockroaches are splendid fellows, fat, active and abundant; rats and mice as elsewhere; alligators and terrapins abundant in the waters, with fine trout, catfish, and many small fry. The land animals are deer, panthers, wild-cats, wolves, raccoons, opossums, foxes, cats, flying and ground squirrels, pouched-rats, or salamanders, and hares in abundance. Turkeys, partridges, and smaller birds, are plentiful.

Parakeets are numerous about the hammocks, their plumage shining in the sunlight, as they fly, screaming, from tree to tree in great numbers. The sand-hill crane is occasionally heard grating its harsh notes of alarm at the approach of man. This country is the winter seat of many northern birds, such as wild geese, ducks &c., which may be seen in flocks about the waters, and savannas. The huntsman finds sport enough even to satiety; among the wild game of the woods, the waters and savannas.

The much dreaded centepede does not, as far as I could discover inhabit this country. There are two species of scorpion here, the smallest one is called a centepede, the large one is scarce, we saw but a pair which we brought home. We heard nothing of the chigger, but it may be here but its evils are no doubt much exaggerated. Rattle-snakes are said to be plenty about waters, hammocks, and rocky lime sinks; we saw none, but heard a good deal about them and their doings, some of them are very large and their bite deadly; a little boy near Micanopy was attacked by one of these reptiles, and was killed by being bitten in a horrid manner in several places. Gardner, negro man belonging to Rev. Robert Child, near Micanopy told us he was out hunting in the edge of a hammock, when his attention was drawn to look about him, by the rattling of a snake when much to his alarm he found himself surrounded by the venomous thing; he jumped back the way he had approached them, and by this escaped their fangs, he then went to work and killed eighteen, about four feet long, and two very large ones, the rattles of which we brought home.

The shell-sand stone is a good material for building chimneys and underpinning buildings. It cuts easy when first taken up, hardens by exposure, and stands fire very well, there being no lime in it. We saw no bricks making anywhere, about the villages or elsewhere, this stone being a good substitute. The often talked of petrified live-oak stumps of Lumsdena river, and fossil coral, in which the peninsula of Florida abounds. Fossil bones of the Mastodon are found all over this part of Florida, with occasionally whole skeletons of the Mastodon, &c. &c.

Thus, reader, we have given you an outline of what we saw of Florida, November, 1853.  
Chinquapin Ridge, Dec. 1853.



### Thibet and Cashmere Goats in South Carolina.

The letter and article on "Thibet and Cashmere Goats in South Carolina" below was received some time since, from a respected subscriber of Forsyth Co. Ga. The first article alluded to we must decline publishing at present. The second under the above head although the information was obtained by a spy in our State, sent to look after the South Carolina Secessionists, we publish, as it embraces a subject of growing interest to upper South Carolina and Georgia. We intend giving some account from personal observation of Dr. Davis, Goats and Cattle—perhaps in this number.

Messrs. Editors:—I send you some printed accounts, which if you think advisable, you can publish in your paper the *Farmer & Planter* they are sensible and to me interesting; as to the Cashmere or Thibet Goats they should be certainly important to the American people, shawls are now made and have been for ages at Cashmere of the finest quality known any where in this world we inhabit, and made from the wool of the Cashmere Goats of the kind imported into South Carolina by Dr. Davis of that State. Shawls are made at Cashmere, worth from one hundred and fifty dollars to six hundred dollars, and I am inclined to believe that the Southern border of the Blue Ridge from Greenville South Carolina, to the western border, Forsyth County and perhaps Cherokee County Georgia would be precisely suitable to the raising of the Thibet or Cashmere Goats fully in every respect as the country in Asia where they are grown, it being near the same latitude and this country is productive and will yield everything necessary for the sustenance of those animals. Cashmere is in the Northern portion of Hindostan where the great shawl making is done.—You will please consider on this matter.

Respectfully your friend, J. M. S.

We have received, through the hands of Col. A. G. Summer, two samples of beautiful silky snow white Cashmere wool, from

Dr. James K. Davis, of South Carolina.—These samples are from the offspring of certain Thibet and Cashmere goats, brought home from the mountains of Persia by Dr. Davis, for the purpose of trying the experiment of introducing these animals among the wool growers of the United States.

It will be remembered that, some seven or eight years ago, Mr. Davis, at the invitation of the Sultan, went over to Turkey to try the introduction of the cotton culture into that country upon that superior system of cultivation which has given to our Southern States the monopoly of the raw material in the great markets of the world. Mr. Davis, upon this honorable and benevolent mission, carried with him the seeds of the best varieties of Southern cotton, and the necessary agricultural books, implements, &c., for the enterprise. After his arrival at Constantinople he was encouraged by the Sultan to send for his family. Mrs. Davis received the summons at Charleston, and with her seven children—the oldest of whom was a boy of fifteen—she promptly undertook the long and hazardous journey to the confines of Asia. She set out on this long journey, not only with her seven children, but with seven or eight slaves, raised on a South Carolina cotton plantation, to join her husband at Stamboul. From Liverpool to France, and thence across the continent of Europe to Naples, thence by sea to Constantinople, she passed in safety, and safely arrived at her destination without accident, or any serious trouble or detention. Dr. Davis had found that the Turks, and the slaves of the Turks, were wholly incompetent for the cultivation of a cotton field upon the American plan, and hence the extraordinary expedient of bringing to his aid a detachment of his own field hands from South Carolina. The experiment finally failed.—Even had the soil and the climate proved favorable in the highest degree, (which was not the case,) the ignorance, prejudices, and indolence of the Turks in agricultural affairs, were insurmountable impediments to success.

Dr. Davis, however, from that spirit of liberality, which has been so frequently illustrated in the history of the reigning Sultan, was not permitted to return home empty-handed. Before his final return westward, however, under the special protection of his Oriental Majesty, he made the tour of the Holy Land, and penetrated into Persia. In these travels he picked up his Cash-

mere and Thibet goats, and a pair of a peculiar breed of Asiatic cattle called, water oxen, from their amphibious nature.

Such is the history of these samples of Cashmere wool now lying upon our table. A special correspondent detailed from this office in the spring of 1851 to look after the South Carolina secessionists and their preparations for war, gathered these particulars from a visit to a plantation of Dr. Davis, near Charleston. The provocation now, we think, will fully justify their publicity.—From the same authority we may also state that a thrifty flock of white kids in '51 was growing up from the imported stocks from Persia; and that a number of them, on the visit aforesaid, were picking the moss from the horizontal limbs of a gigantic live oak tree in the open field, scattered about among its branches, from ten to twenty feet from the ground, while the water-oxen were luxuriating among the lotus plants, up to their shoulders in the mud of a small swamp hard by.

We incline to think that the Cashmere and Thibet goats may result more successfully than the commendable efforts of another gentleman to introduce the culture of the tea plant in South Carolina. We should suppose that the mountainous district of the South, particularly where as well adapted for the goats of the foothills of the Himalayas as are the great plains which flank the Rocky Mountains for the camels of Arabia. We presume that if he has not already, Dr. Davis will soon have some samples of his home-produced Cashmere wool on exhibition at the crystal Palace.

[N. Y. Herald.]

#### Short Direction for Planting Trees.

Remove all bruised or injured roots, by cutting them from the under side with a sharp knife. Dig the holes at least twice as large as the roots extend, so as to allow them easy access in their starting to the loose earth, which should be finely pulverized; when the hole is half filled, pour in a few gallons of water, which has a tendency to settle the earth and fill up vacancies. Be careful to avoid lifting the tree up, while filling in, which tends to give the roots a vertical and unnatural position. Let the soil in contact with the roots be the surface soil first thrown out, or rich loam, obtained expressly, would be better. Leaf mould, from the woods is excellent. Let no manure be

put into the hole around the root, which is apt to induce decay. If any applied let it be on the surface, to be carried down by rains.

The fall of the year is a suitable time for surface, manuring around trees. Let the trees be well staked and tied up to prevent being shaken or disturbed by the winds. After culture, Periodical judicious pruning are also important. As a general rule, orchards should be ploughed and cultivated to insure fine fruit and good crops. When this is not practicable, trees should be dug round and kept free from grass and weeds. Avoid especially *deep* planting; when the earth settles, the tree should be about the same depth as before removal.

Mulching all the first season they are transplanted, by covering the ground around two or three feet each way, with grass or course hay, little, &c., is very important to secure success. It preserves an even temperature in the soil, keeps it damp, and prevents, to some extent, damage from sudden changes of weather.—*Norristown Register.*

*From the Soil of the South.*

**God made the Earth, but Man must make it Productive.**

This will not be denied; nor will it be denied that a beneficent Providence has entrusted to the citizens of Georgia a rich and varied soil, blessed with great variety of climate.

Under these circumstances what have the farmers of Georgia been doing? and what under the present condition of the farming and the country does it become Georgia to do? What is her duty? These are enquiries it is time all Georgians should make.—We can only answer that the Georgia Farmers have been regularly murdering their lands, scraping the surface of their farms, loosening the mould to be washed away by the heavy and frequent rains of the climate, returning little if any for its first generous yields, and much of those little returns, not in a proper manner, nor always in right quantity nor quality; and they are still engaged in cutting down timber, which will soon be invaluable to them and doing the same to the remaining virgin soil. We are beginning to think that that is not altogether right, and that we began as farmers in the wrong way unless we are running our lands for the purpose of showing how soon, or how well, we



can restore them. Few if any have learned or can tell what elements or ingredients compose their soil, or what are the elements of the plants they are trying to cultivate. These are all facts which must be admitted; then does it not become Georgia to make the arrangements which are requisite to remedy these evils? To begin with those already engaged in farming, she should supply the deficiencies of their education and training, which can in a great measure be done, and is done by some of her sister States with great success. They have appointed and support a competent chemist with an assistant, whose duties are to furnish gratis all information that may be required to give the farmers an accurate knowledge of their soils and measures and what may be necessary to make them most suitable for the plants they cultivate. Maryland in 1847 proposed the appointment of a State Chemist, with one assistant, whose duties were to make a Geological survey and map of the State, and to analyze gratis all soils, &c., which her farmers might send to them, and to return to the farmers a memorandum of the analysis, detailing the elements and what was required to make the soils suitable for their purposes. The first attempt resulted in the appointment of a Chemist under the defective law with a salary of (\$1,500) fifteen hundred dollars, and (\$200) two hundred dollars for the purchase of Chemical Instruments and materials, and each succeeding year year a sum not exceeding (\$50) fifty dollars for the same purpose. The Governor gave assurances that the appointment should not be made on political grounds; no one should be appointed State Chemist unless he received the recommendation of the majority of the Committees of Agriculture of both Senate and House. At the next session, the report of the State Chemist was read. 2,500 were first ordered to be printed, then 8,000 more, and afterwards 2,000 more, and his salary was increased to (\$2,000) two thousand dollars and an assistant appointed with a salary of (\$1,000) one thousand dollars, and they were directed to locate their laboratory in Baltimore, where all soils, marls, limestones, minerals and manures of the State which may be deposited in their office for that purpose shall be analyzed by the State Chemist or assistant, free of charge, and memorandum of the analysis handed the proprietor. Now in Maryland the farmer or land owner

has only to send his soil, &c., to the State Chemist's office to be analysed; if he wants guano, lime, gypsum, or any other agricultural material, he has only to go to the State Chemist's office, where he finds samples of all which are in the city for sale, already analysed and the Chemist or assistant prepared to inform him where they are to be had, at what price, and what their constituent qualities and strength, and how much their soils will require per acre to make them most productive. It is the duty also of the Chemist to go through each district and advise the farmers and give a course of lectures upon its soil and agriculture, and deliver a copy of the lectures to the clerks of the courts, to be printed for circulation among the farmers; and is also made his duty to report to each Legislature what he has done and his views, and these reports are printed and circulated by the Legislature and the Chemist.

It must be clear to every one that such arrangements will remedy the defective education of the farmers of the present day, and will improve our Agriculture rapidly. For the rising generation, the State of New York, after six years' trial, has succeeded in establishing an agricultural school or College, and bought the most highly improved farm in the State for its location as an experimental farm, and made its owner, her most accomplished farmer, its President. Such a school or College, with an experimental farm, Georgia should establish for her rising generations. One would soon put a stop to the deterioration of her lands which her present system of agriculture is so rapidly carrying on; and would not only stop the deterioration of her lands, but rapidly improve them and her agriculture, and advance her still higher among the States; for she abounds in fertile lands and inexhaustible resources for their improvement.

That such would be the result of the establishment of Agricultural schools with proper instructors we have only to look to Germany to be satisfied. Mr. C. L. Flushman, who was educated in one of the German agricultural schools, says, "who is not acquainted with the history of the wars which enervated Germany—which exhausted all her pecuniary means and brought her to the verge of utter ruin? Germany was after the close of the French war, in a pitiable condition; and had it not been for her kind soils, which for thousands of years enabled her to stand the severe calamities which be-



ed her during that long period, Germany would now be a second Greece. She adopted, at an early period, various means to improve her agriculture at the Universities—periodicals and journals were published to disseminate modern Improvements—fairs and meetings were regularly held to encourage the farmer—but all that gave not the desired results. A thorough education was found necessary, practical and scientific education, which enables the farmer to enhance the value of his lauded property, as circumstances and condition allow it, to give them the knowledge to improve and change the various modes of culture, and to be more than a mere imitator. Proper agricultural schools were wanted and the monarchs of Germany spared no means to accomplish this important object. The ablest men were selected for the institutions, and nothing was spared to them to take charge of them. The late King of Prussia, who, like his ancestors, paid great attention to all improvements in husbandry was the first to establish such an institution. He invited Thare, the celebrated German Agriculturists, to settle within his kingdom and introduce Agricultural schools. Thare accepted his offer and left Cella for Berlin. The other monarchs of Germany followed the example of the King of Prussia, and Germany had, in 1847, sixty-two large institutions.—With some of them forests and veterinary schools are concerned. Austria then had nine; Prussia 12; Saxony 5; Bavaria 16; Hanover three; Wintembergh 3; and other States 14; in all 62; (and Georgia, the great Empire State of the South, has not one.) Their schools are well organized and well connected. The experience of forty years has brought them to a perfection which may serve as a pattern to any country. Science is cultivated with success. Its Chemists devote themselves to life the veil of nature's secret operations and show agriculturists how to enrich the soil."

Does not Georgia require the same arrangements, not only to advance, but to prevent her falling back behind not only some of the new rich States, but some of the old who are even now in our rear? Will the boasting freemen of an American Republic allow their country to remain behind those of despotic monarchs whom they so much reproach? The farmers certainly will not willingly. Each one knows that the first operation of such institutions will

be to profit the individual farmer, and through the farmer every one of every pursuit. Let us forthwith appeal to the Governor for his recommendation to the Legislature, and then lay hold and give a strong pull and a long pull and a pull altogether to direct and control our wrangling, squabbling, thoughtless Politicians; or put other men in place to establish these arrangements so much wanted by the country. Establish them, and we shall soon know what our Cherokee country contains; and what our rotten Limestone or Marl region will, with the aid of Mr. Ruffin, do for the poor and worn spots of our country. Establish them and we will not only perform our task of "making the earth productive," but will keep it so too. S.

*From the Mountaineer.*

COL. WHEATON.—DEAR SIR:—Will you be good enough to permit me, in the name of the Saluda Agricultural Association, to ask through your paper of the Farmers of this District, most respectfully, to furnish the Magistrate of their respective Beats; the number of sheep they or each of them have lost by Dogs in the year 1853. And also in the same respectful manner to ask of each Magistrate in Greenville District, their assistance in procuring the desired information. It is deemed important and desirable to know what amount of sheep are annually destroyed in the State by Dogs. Our Association would therefore most respectfully solicit the other Agricultural organizations in other Districts, to make the necessary arrangements for ascertaining the facts in their respective Districts.

The Magistrates of Greenville District will please make their reports to Mr. John R. Gossett, or the undersigned, as soon as may be convenient. By the 1st Monday in February next, if practicable.

Will the "Farmer and Planter" and "Southern Agriculturist" co-operate with us in this move?

Most respectfully,

A. B. CROOK,

Presd't S. A. A.

Yes Doctor we will do anything in our power to advance the sheep raising interest and put down that of dogs, and will suggest that not only the Farmers of Greenville District—but of every District in the State



make similar returns up to the first of November next, and that the Magistrates hand returns to the members elect in their respective districts, to the Legislature, to take to Columbia that they may there compare lists and give us the remedy.—Eds. F. & P.

#### Sheep.

Messrs. Editors:—Enclosed you will find one dollar to pay for the Farmer & Planter for the present year. Please send it to Cartersville Ga. I neglected to forward my subscription after getting here, but am determined to do without your valuable paper no longer, as it contains many things to interest me.

I see that several stock farmers are getting under way in Pickens; I wish them every success, and feel confident such will be the case if well managed and properly stocked. I have had some experience in the Sheep business, on a small scale, and believe it will pay better than any other, if closely attended to, I have heretofore only had the improved Leicester Sheep, of which stock I have a very pretty flock, but about two years ago I ordered ten ewes and a buck from Col. H. S. Randal of his blooded Merinoes, which I found so hardy and thrifty that I determined to have more of them, and Col. J. C. Spruell and myself ordered another lot, which arrived a short time since, numbering twenty two, beautiful yearling ewes from which I hope in a few years we will have quite a large flock. They are much hardier than any of the larger breeds that I have tried. Their nose is rarely ever foul, while the larger breeds are nearly always stuffed up with colds. I also have bought a few New Oxfordshires, but would advise my friends to take the Merinoes, as best suited to stand either heat or cold.

I hope you will pardon me for writing so much more than I intended, but as this subject is exciting much interest at this time, what I have said may not bore you as much as it would some others.

If my experiments prove successful, I may communicate my experience to you, for the information of other new beginners.

With my best wishes for the success of your valuable paper, and the cause it so ably advocates, I will close, Yours truly,

JAMES W. WATTS.

REMARKS.—We thank you friend W. for

the above communication which we have taken the liberty to publish as it treats principally of a subject of growing interest to our upper districts, and we do hope, and in this are quite sure that our friends to whom you allude will join us—that it may not be your last communication on this interesting subject. Several of our neighbors and acquaintances are preparing to go into the Sheepraising business in Pickens District and we think there can be no doubt of success, if the business is properly conducted, but it will not do otherwise. There *must* be a shepherd with the flocks at all times, or they will only serve as food for the thousand and one hungry dogs that may be found in every neighborhood. Eds.

#### Dr. Davis' Stock.

Messrs. Editors:—At your request, I will give you a description of the different kinds of stock I saw at Dr. Davis', near Columbia.

You will remember, Dr. Davis, on account of his character for energy and enterprise, and because of his known excellency as a cotton Planter, was selected by President Polk to send to Turkey, to make trial of that climate for the growth of cotton. The head or the Turkish government having sent a special agent to request that the President of the United States should select, and send to him, a man of approved character, and a skilful cotton planter, for which he agreed to pay the individual sent the sum of \$50,000 for five years' experiments.

Dr. Davis was selected and sent. And while there he was enabled to procure and bring with him on his return several varieties of stock. The high price which some of his stock has been sold for in the United States proves his judgement, and sagacity in his selections. The varieties he showed me on my recent visit to his residence, were first, the African sheep. These had the size and appearance of our sheep, except that they were covered with a coat of hair instead of wool. Their excellency consisted mostly in the flavor of their flesh for mutton and the rapidity of increase.

Next a pair of the water ox. The cows of this species are not more abundant milkers than our better quality of cows but their milk is said to be of superior richness. They



are peculiarly adapted to live in wet swamps and love to feed in watery marshes.

Next was the half breed of the Brahmin cattle, the most beautiful specimens of the cattle kind I have ever seen. The deer of our mountains may be fairly considered their daguerreotype. In size they are larger than the largest of our common stock, and their form and symmetry admirably adapted for quick and rapid motion and great endurance, for surpassing the horse. I was told they had been known to travel with a rider on their back 90 miles in 24 consecutive hours. For milk the half breed are equal to the best of our short-horn Durhams. The oxen for draft purposes, in all respects superior to the horse, and except for the saddle must in time, for the South, supercede the horse, noble and useful as he is. Even for the harness, when the pride of man can be overcome, they will be preferred for their docility, fleetness and power of endurance. Their flesh, like that of the horse, will not be much used for the table, however excellent it may be, because of its price.

The pair Dr. Davis imported, he sold to a gentleman in Kentucky for \$4,000, besides reserving a pair of their calves. Mr. Parker, of Columbia, has a half-breed heifer two years old, very large and beautiful, for which I heard Hon. F. Pickens of Edgefield, say he had offered \$500 and could not get. The half breed I was told were probably superior to the full blood for all domestic purposes.

Next the Cashmere Goat. This goat is of larger size than our common goat, is as easily kept, and by his experiment, is proven to be admirably adapted to our climate. Its great excellence is, that instead of a coat of hair, it has a fleece of fine silky appearance, from four to six inches long in one year's growth. It is from the fleece of this goat the celebrated Cashmere shawls from China are made. Besides its beautiful and silky appearance, textures made from the fleece of this goat out wear all known substances. Socks made of it have been worn six winters, without material injury. They can be shorn annually and the average weight of each fleece is about four pounds, sometimes weighing as much as seven pounds, and the price is \$3.50 to \$9.00 per pound, being equal in value to the value to the united fleeces of about sixteen Marino sheep annually. Dr. Davis considers these so well adapted to the climate and so valuable that he refuses to sell full blooded ewes at all. But sells the

bucks from \$100 to \$200 each. He is very liberal, however, and has given several to friends.

These two latter species possess intrinsic excellencies of great merit, which are now but beginning to be appreciated. They must soon be considered by the American people as possessing more value than any other species of animals ever introduced into the United States. And Dr. Davis not only deserves but will receive the encomium of a public benefactor, by the present and future generations. I hope for the great good he has thus done the American people, he may receive a rich reward himself for his public spirited enterprise.

I did not have the pleasure to visit Gen. Hampton's stock, and much regret that I did not, for I was told by friends who did that his stock of Cashmere goats were in fine condition; his stock of Bakewell sheep very superior, and his large stock of short horned Durhams were of the very best quality and in superior condition. These latter he was crossing with the Brahmin half-breed bull. I was informed further that Gen. Hampton had near 500 acres of river bottom set with Bermuda grass, over which all his stock roamed. Notwithstanding he had mowed much hay from the same pasture, and that from one acre, had mowed as much as four tons of hay in one year.—As the Bermuda grass has been introduced, permit me to say there is a great mistake in supposing the Bermuda and a grass called by some the joint grass, to be the same.—Although I admit there is between these two grasses a general similarity in appearance, yet their qualities and natures are different.

The Bermuda perfects no seed. The color of the grass when growing is of a peeper green, the stems smaller and much more tender than the other. When well set in good ground the stems will run up  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet high and stand thick, and is thus well adapted both for hay and grazing. The joint grass will not run up in the most undisturbed and favorable situation to a height of more than 8. to 10 inches. I refer here to the grave yard of the Episcopal church in Columbia, where I saw it in December, thickly set.

I had an opportunity at one time to get a statement from the owners of blue grass and clover farms, in Kentucky, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, New York, Western Virgin-



ia, Ohio, and they all united in saying that it would take one acre of their best grass, and in the best season, to keep in a fattening condition one grown ox. I learned too at the same time that the best grasses of England and Germany would do no more. But from Hon Mr. Harminson, of Louisiana. I was informed that one acre of Bermuda grass on the Mississippi bottoms would keep in a fattening condition three grown steers. This goes to show that an acre of this grass in the bottoms of South Carolina, is three to one better than the far famed Blue grass pastures of Kentucky. And further I was informed by the Hon J. Black, late the Representative from York District, that there is a grass on the plantation of our much respected ex-Governor, J. H. Means, of this State, ten acres of bottom well set with which he had known to keep in a fattening condition seventy head of cattle, embracing grown cattle, yearlings and calves. This grass I may say it is almost impossible to eradicate, and is a great impediment to the growth of cotton, but for corn and wheat it is scarcely an injury.

R. F. SIMPSON.

Pendleton, Feb. 1, 1853.

#### Future Housekeepers.

We sometimes catch ourselves wondering how many of the young women who we meet with are to perform the part of housekeepers, when the young men who now eye them so admiringly have persuaded them to become their wives.

We listen to those young ladies of whom we speak, and hear them not only acknowledging but boasting of their ignorance of all housework duties, as if nothing would so lower them in the esteem of their friends as the confession of an ability to bake bread and pies, or cook a piece of meat, or a disposition to engage in any useful employment.

Speaking from our youthful recollection, we are free to say that taper fingers and lilly white hands are very pretty to look at with a young man's eyes, and sometimes we have known the artless innocence of practical knowledge displayed by a young Miss to appear rather interesting than otherwise. But we have lived long enough to learn that life is full of rugged experiences, and that the most loving romantic and delicate people must live on cooked or otherwise prepared food, and in homes kept clean and tidy by industrious hands. And for the practical

purposes of married life, it is generally found that for the husband to sit and gaze at a wife's taper fingers and lilly hands, or for a wife to sit and be looked at and admired, does not make the pot boil or put the smallest piece of food in the pot.

#### Tooth Washes and Tooth Powders.

Several years since, while at work in the chemical laboratory, a man brought us a little vial holding a half ounce, and bearing the following or a similar label:

"Tooth-wash—warranted to remove all dark color. &c. &c., from the teeth immediately, and give them a pearly whiteness.—It preserves the teeth from decay, renders the breath sweet, prevents tartar from forming upon them, and being carried into the stomach, thus improves the general health of the system. A single vial will last for years. Price only 25 cents."

We examined this *valuable affair*, and found it to consist only of water with a little common muriatic acid, (hydro-chloric acid.) Its only action upon the teeth was to *dissolve* off a portion their surface, which of course removed the dark coating. The continued use of this wash would soon entirely eat away the teeth and destroy them. We estimated the cost of a barrel full of the wash to be about 75 cents, and that this would fill about 7,500 of the 25 cent vials, at a cost of about one cent for one hundred vials full.—The cost of the vials, including the labels and filling, was about one and a quarter cents each. This "Tooth-wash peddler" offered us a shining gold eagle to tell him how to make it, (which of course we declined doing,) "for," said he, "I pay \$15 a hundred for these vials, and I sell thousands of them, and am now going to the New York State Fair, and can sell them like hot cakes to the green country chaps. Last year I made over \$100, selling this same wash at one fair, and I want to make it myself."

We told him how injurious it was to the teeth, and he left us. We heard no more of him, till a few days since we met him at one of our Southern State Fairs driving a brisk business. He had a boy on a stool before him, and was performing his dental operations (anti-dental rather) upon a dark colored set of teeth, and showing to a wondering crowd "this black tooth by the side of that white one, made so by his incomparable tooth-wash."

A dozen or more of the ambitious crowd



immediately walked up and paid their quarters, and carried hom the prize. We stepped up to the pedler and reminded him of our former remonstrances; but he replied: "It pays too well to give up the business, I make \$1500 a year clear, and pay \$50 a year to the State for the privilege of selling. A hundred others are selling it all over the country. I got it for \$10 a hundred after telling the manufacturer how cheaply you said it could be made."

We will only say in regard to tooth washes and tooth powders generally, that, whether dry or liquid, they usually contain some acid which destroys the teeth. It is safer to avoid them all. A good tooth-brush and water or some pleasant kind of soap, is the best and safest tooth cleaner we know of.—The teeth should be brushed before going to bed. Food remaining upon and between them during the night is apt to turn to acid, which eats away the surface.

[*American Agriculturist.*]

#### How to keep Harness in Order.

Observing the good condition and fine appearance of the harness of Ald. Baker, proprietor of the most extensive livery establishment in Rochester, we requested him to impart to us, for publication, the *modus operandi* by which so desirable a result was achieved. In compliance therewith, he stated the course adopted as the best and most economical, after twenty years experience in a business which required considerable attention to tackling apparatus. His process of oiling and washing harness is substantially as follows:

Take Neats Foot Oil, and Ivory or Patent Black—the latter well pulverised, or to be made so before using. Mix thoroughly—adding the black until the oil is well coloured, or quite black. In cool weather the oil should be warmed somewhat before mixing. With a sponge apply a light coat of the mixture—only what the leather will readily absorb, unless the harness is very dry, in which case a heavier coating may be necessary.—After the harness is dry—which will be in two hours to a half or a whole day, depending upon the weather and previous condition of the leather—wash thoroughly with soap suds. In making the suds, use good Castile soap and cold rain water—(warm water should never be used on harness leather.) Apply the suds with a sponge. Rub off

with buckskin. This will give your harness a nice, glossy surface, and the leather will retain a good color and continue pliable for months. If it becomes soiled with mud, or sweat, an application of soap and water, as above directed, (without oiling, will be sufficient to give it a bright appearance.

Two applications of this oil and black mixture a year, (or once every six months,) will be sufficient to keep harness, as ordinarily used, in good order. It may be necessary for livery men, and others who use harness constantly, to apply the oil oftener—but in most cases two oilings a year, and washing with suds when soiled, will keep a harness in good trim for sight and service. This process will pay a large dividend in extra service and durability—to say nothing of improved appearance.

#### SOAP SUDS FOR WATERING PLANTS.—

Nothing can be better for summer watering of plants and vines, than the suds of the weekly wash, and no one who desires a good garden will suffer it to be wasted. For cabbages, cucumbers, beets, and the like, it seems especially adapted, and one of the most thrifty grape vines we even saw, was watered with soap suds almost daily in dry weather. A large supply is not needed at once, but frequent waterings promote rapid and vigorous vegetation.—*American Cotton Planter.*

EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYED.—Employer too often treat those under them as mere hirelings, who are to be valued by what can be got out of them. They are not encouraged to that confidential interest in the business. If they serve faithfully, there is something due them besides their salary; and they are not unfrequently disheartened if they hear not the voice of approval. They should not expect to be either coaxed or caressed, but a word of praise is a grateful stimulus to the energy of the most disheartened. The fact that he is *subject*, makes the employed all the more sensitive to courtesy and kindness; and employers should not forget that in one sense both they and their subordinates are equal and dependant.

[*Journal of Commerce.*]

Very good champagne, it is said, is made in France, from the juice of the rhubarb plant. It is sold at forty-five cents per bottle.



**Rambling Thoughts on the Agriculture  
of the Upper part of South Carolina.**

MESSERS. EDITORS:—As a partial return for the kindness and hospitality which has been shewn me by the citizens of this part of your State, I beg leave to submit to them, through the medium of your useful journal, the result of such limited observations and inquiries as I have been enabled to make, in relation to the important interest which your publication is calculated to promote. With no practical knowledge of the peculiarities of your climate or the crops best suited to it, I cannot hope to offer anything that will be either new or useful to the intelligent farmers of this portion of your State, and will not therefore presume to obtrude upon them crude speculations on subjects, with which they are much more familiar than I am. But encouraged by the assurance that he who causes two blades of grass to grow where but one grew before, is to that extent a public benefactor, I will venture to offer a few suggestions and remarks upon the soil of this portion of South Carolina—the modes of culture which seem to be practised here, adding a few general remarks upon the systems generally pursued in portions of our own country and of Europe, most advanced in Agriculture.—The geological features of this and the adjoining districts of Abbeville and Pickens, are, as far as I have had an opportunity to observe them, very similar. Gneis, granite, mica, talcose and clay slates, traversed throughout by veins of quartz, are the prevailing rocks of these districts. These, I need not inform your readers, are all primitive rocks, and the three first being composed of the same minerals (viz: mica, quartz and felspar) in different proportions, often pass into each other by almost imperceptible gradations. Gneis, which largely predominates over all the others, contains from 4 to 10 per cent. of pot ash, and about one per cent. of lime. There is in all these, as also in the veins of quartz, considerable iron, from the oxide of which your soil takes its deep-red color. Quartz when pure, is pure siliceous sand, but many of these veins are auriferous, or gold bearing, and I have no doubt that some of them will hereafter be profitably worked. From the abrasion and decomposition of the rocks to which I have referred, the soil derives its mineral properties, and in them when combined in due proportions with organic matter, or humus, possesses in a high degree the elements of enduring

fertility, and although it may not possess all the fertilizing properties of some of the best soils of the Northern and Western States, will in many respects compare favorably with them. Before I proceed to the consideration of the system of farming which seems to be generally pursued in this and the adjoining districts, suffer me to say that, in my opinion, this State has by giving away the lands belonging to it, pursued a mistaken policy, and done much to retard an improved system of agriculture. The difficulty of introducing useful improvements will be felt wherever new lands of good quality can be obtained on the terms which the lands of this State have been granted, and the effects of this policy here have been not only to add largely to the possessions of many who previously owned more land than they could either occupy or improve, but has also led to the system which so generally prevails, of opening new fields and new farms, instead of attempting to reclaim the old. I am aware that other reasons may be urged here in defence of this primitive and in the end ruinous system, which do not exist in some other sections of country. These are:—1st. cheapness and facility of preparing for cultivation your lightly timbered oak and pine lands, by girdling the larger trees and burning the smaller on the land; 2d. lighter and easier cultivation while the vegetable mould upon the surface may last; 3d. the greater expense of obtaining the fertilizing manures of guano, maple, lime and gypsum, deemed so necessary in the resuscitation of exhausted soils and so extensively used in some sections of our country. As the course which the two first of the above reasons would justify, are the first steps in a system of husbandry which an enlightened experience has condemned. I will not here enter into either calculation or argument to show that new improvements should not be made while there are old ones to be reclaimed.—“As no body but a savage would cut down the tree to get at it's fruit,” so a good husbandman would not clear up the forest to wear out the soil. Of the 3d and last reason noticed above, I will here only remark that I fully appreciate the importance and value of the manures to which I have referred, but having shown that your soils contains carbonate of lime and pot-ash, I have no doubt your worn and impoverished lands may be restored to more than their original fertility by the means which have, wherever they



have been tried, accomplished this result.— I will now, gentlemen, proceed to the chief purpose of this communication, which is to describe briefly the means which have secured to the best agricultural districts of Europe, and of our own country, constantly increasing fertility. To bring this home to your farmers, and render it more intelligible to them, I will endeavor to describe the course which I think a practical English or Northern farmer would pursue, in attempting to restore to fertility the impoverished lands of this part of your State:

As deep and thorough plowing is the first step towards recussitation they would as soon after the press of their spring work was over, and the condition of the land would permit, commence for wheat, by plowing with a heavy wing, and turning or mould board plow and a strong team, being careful to break up every foot of the land, to a depth of seven or eight inches, completely turning under the broomsedge and other vegetation upon the surface. Such a plow as I have described, would cut a furrow, from twelve to fourteen inches in width, leaving the furrow slice as might be preferred, at an angle to the horizon or bottom of the furrow of forty-five or fifty degrees. In July or early in August, they would go over it with a harrow, to prepare it for a second or cross plowing which should be done immediately after harrowing. They would then let it rest until just before seeding, when they would again plow lightly to prepare the land for the seed. Having often witnessed the extraordinary effects of Guano on impoverished lands I would here recommend that from one hundred and fifty to two hundred pounds to the acre [well pulverized] should be sown broad cast and harrowed in with the wheat. The land is now prepared for seeding with clover which in New York would be sown on a light snow in March, at the rate of eight to ten pounds of seed to the acre. In this latitude I should think it would be advisable, to sow it either at the time of sowing the wheat or in January or February. This completes the first most important, and most expensive step in the process of recussitation. The land would now be allowed to rest in pasture two years or until the clover had attained its full size and in June or July in N. Y. or in August or September in this climate, they would again plow for wheat as deep and as thoroughly as at first. As the land will be rendered loose and fri-

ble by the action of the clover it will now require but one more plowing which after being harrowed should be done just before seeding. As corn in N. Y. and corn or cotton here, would be the next crop in the series, they would late in the fall or early in the next spring plow once increasing the depth to eight or nine inches to guard against the droughts of summer. The corn crop they would follow with wheat the same fall and again seed with clover, or they would follow it with oats, barley or peas and these the same fall with wheat and again seed with clover, giving the land the same rest as before. This in England would be called the four or five course rotation viz. 1st clover 2d wheat 3d corn here turnips or peas there 4th oats or barley 5th wheat. It is this rotation of crops which combined with the tillage I have described that has accomplished so much for the agriculture of the countries where it has been adopted, and no good farmer in England or the Northern states would think of cultivating the same crops two years in succession on the same field. The reason for this is that all the crops I have innumeraed abstract from the soil different proportions of the mineral elements which enter into their composition and which are necessary for their nourishment. And therefore a succession of the same crops on the same fields will soon deprive them of some of those mineral ingredients that are indispensable to their growth and maturity.

Now as the course I have endeavored to explain may appear to your patrons as unnecessarily expensive. I beg leave to say to them, that if they will try it, to the extent of one or any given number of acres, I will guarantee that the extra product of the first crop shall reimburse the extra expense.— Now gentlemen before I close this desultory and I fear unintelligible article allow me to give expression to the feelings with which your fine country has impressed me.— Though charmed with the natural beauty of your scenery, your agreeable and healthy climate—the natural fertility of your soil—the excellence of your roads, in fine with everything except those abandoned improvements and their deserted dwellings—those impoverished and desolate old fields, to which I have referred. These have I confess whenever presented to my view, impressed me with feelings of sadness. In closing allow me to hope that what I have here



written will be received by your patrons in the spirit which has dictated it, and believe me gentlemen, Your friend and servant,  
J. SLOCUM.

**TO PREVENT MICE AND RABBITS FROM BRAKING TREES.**—An article has been going the rounds of the papers copied we believe originally from "Dickens's Household Words" of a horse who was accustomed to barking any trees he was tied to, and who on commencing operations on one which had previously been washed with tobacco juice, flew back with such violence, as almost to break his halter. As this weed is known to be exceedingly offensive to every animal but one it has occurred to us if it may not be effectually applied in the same way, to protect trees from Mice and Rabbits, by washing the trunks with it near the ground. It is worth at least a trial.—*Penn. Farm Journal.*

#### **Vineyards, the best Temperance Societies.**

The above is a truism, and although self-evident, and some one may say announce apropos de bottles, still as these lines may meet the eye of some incredulous "Sons of Temperance," I shall take the trouble to quote the experience of a clever observer, Mr. H. Colman, for their edification. I will first state that the extent of lands cultivated in vines in France, are nearly five millions of acres; and that rather more than one-half of all the wine produced is consumed in France, the balance forms the subject of a lucrative commerce.

In a moral view, one would at first be inclined to dread the effects of such a production upon the habits of the people. It would not be true to say there is no drunkenness in France; but, account for it as we will, temperance is pre-eminently the characteristic of the French people, and I believe them to be, without question, the most sober of all civilized countries." Thanks to vineyards; enabling the millions of the inhabitants of towns and rural districts to drink a nutritious, healthy, and mild beverage, at a moderate price.

We shall the more appreciate the value of this branch of industry, the better we are acquainted with its culture and usefulness as to its important production.

#### **Guano and the Cotton Crop.**

It is really cheering to see the wonderful effect of this manure on the cotton plant and its produce. I walked over many fields

in which its effect was made evident to me in a most positive manner. In one instance, where the Guano was applied to tight lands that would produce little or nothing, they produce at least ten times more by the application of sixty pounds only to the acre, which is entirely too little. I am persuaded by comparison that the use of Guano will not only yield a larger weed, more and larger bolls, but longer staple, and larger seed, containing a greater per centage of Phosphate of Lime in it than the seed produced by a plant that has not been affected in its growth by Guano. And these kind of seed will fertilize the soil more and more every year, from the fact of the improved weight of the seed returned as manure and produced by the stimulus of the Guano. Respectfully,  
JOSEPH TOGNO.

**Bees.**—About one year ago we promised to give a receipt for making Gillmore's patent bee feed, during 1853, and as the year will soon close, we find we must say what we have to say on that subject now, or not fulfil our promise. We have not the exact relative quantities of the articles used before us, yet we have his written recipe among our papers somewhere, but it is not important.—He takes about equal weights of West India honey, and common brown sugar, places the articles over a fire, and adds about one gallon of water to every three of the mixture, heats to the boiling point, takes off the scum, and the food is ready for use. When the white India sugar is used with honey, the flavor of the mixture is much nearer that of common northern honey, than the West India honey alone, and may be sold for northern honey, as taken from the fire, without detection by people who are not good judges of honey; and when this compound is stored up in combs by the bees, the wax imparts a slight flavor to it similar to northern honey, and when eaten in the comb, it can scarcely be detected from real honey. The bees do not impart the slightest change to its flavor, nor are they able to change the taste or flavor of any sweet gathered by them.

The stock in the "Bee feed" business is falling off rapidly, and will be down to nothing soon, we think. We are quite willing that a few more people should try it, if they have an X or a V to throw away. We did all we could last season to "open the eyes of the blind," but we found men who had



series on their eyes—maddened our implements of operation. They have now dropped off by the force of—not gravitation, but *guiltily*—a new motive power that operates slowly but surely.

By-the-by, how does our Rev. Friend of Whitestown get along, who figured so conspicuously in our paper last year, as a vender of Bee-feed? Does he stick to his *text* yet, or does he preach a different doctrine? We have not heard from him since last December. At that time he called on us and predicted that *mene, mene, tekel Upharsin*, was written on the walls of our office, in consequence of an offensive article that we published about those days. He was a “false prophet,” such as we read of in the Bible, who are to appear in the latter days.

With our Bee-keeping friends please to send to us for our Bee-hive Circular? which may be enclosed in a paper, and which will be sent free of charge.—*Northern Farmer*.

**SAVING SEED.**—Blindness to our own interest is in noways manifested so fully, as in the foolish practice of gathering “what’s left” for seed. The first vegetable, peas or snap beans, that appear, save for seed; the first stock that shows a pod, let it go to seed; the first cucumber, squash, or melon, save for seed. In this way we may succeed in getting much earlier vegetables, than by following the usual method of taking the refuse of all our garden crops for seed. Save the best and earliest of everything for seed. Our egg plant might be brought into bearing much sooner if we would save the first for seed. Who can stand it, with all the long year’s dearth of delicious morsels, to save the first roasting ear or tomato, that may appear, for seed? and yet if we would bring forward the whole crop two or three weeks earlier, it must be done. Let it be a settled maxim of the farmer to save the first and best of everything for seed. Corn and wheat may be greatly improved by such a course.

**THE CURCULIO.**—A correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune says that a friend, after having tried many ineffectual remedies for the curculio, mixed sulphur and laid with a little Scotch snuff, and rubbed it freely on the body and branches of the tree. The curculio had already commenced their work at the time, but, not relishing the smell of the snuff, in a few days they all left, and he had

such a crop of plums, that he was obliged to prop the branches up to keep them from breaking off. This remedy is worth trying.



### The Farmer and Planter.

PENDLETON, S. C.

Vol. V., No. 2. : : February, 1854.

We had intended saying something in this Number, about the fine stock which we saw in Columbia, but our friend Maj. Simpson, has saved us the necessity, by his interesting communication, to which we refer our readers.

#### Our January Number.

It affords us much pleasure to hear from many of our subscribers that they are pleased with the new form of our paper. It is certainly a much more convenient form for binding and preservation; yet we must confess we are not altogether pleased with it, and we were strongly inclined to change the form so as to enlarge it and reprint the first number, but owing to its late appearance added to the fact that our column rules and leads, were all cut down to suit our present columns, we are under the necessity of continuing its present form through the volume. The present number is an improvement however on the first, and by doubling the number of pages of our cover on which we may give some interesting matter not so essential to the body of the work in addition to our advertisements, upon the whole our readers gains by the change of form even if nothing more than the quantity of matter is taken into consideration.

We have to apologize for the late appearance of our Jan and Feb. numbers which was occasioned principally by a former Printer leaving in December without giving us due notice of his intention and by the sickness of the one employed to take his place. Our friends will accept our sincere thanks



for their patience. We believe we have lost but one subscriber by the delay, we presume he must be a pattern of punctuality and hence was annoyed up to the pitch of "stop my paper" at our tardiness without knowing the cause.

MR. HOLMES, of the firm of HOLMES and STORER will accept our thanks for his kind attention in presenting us a bushel of superior oats which he informs us grew on Johns Island should they stand the winter here as they do there we shall be highly gratified. We have some now growing of the kind presented by COL. WILLIAMS, of Laurens to some of our neighbors, that were sown in November and have so far weathered our very severe freezes without the least apparent injury.

That no part of our paper may be taken up with notices of exchanges advertisements &c. all such will be found under the proper head on our advertising sheet to which the readers of the Farmer and Planter are referred.

The readers of the Farmer and Planter will we are quite sure join us in welcoming Mr. Stearns as a valuable contributor to our columns. Mr. S. is a gentleman well versed in the science of Geology and Mineralogy and one, whose knowledge of Agriculture has been obtained more from practice and observation than from books, hence he is the better calculated to teach the practical farmer than if his knowledge of the science was altogether theoretical. He has travelled much both at home and in Europe and we find has been a close observer of all the different systems of culture and of the progress of agricultural improvement wherever he has been. We hope this will not be the last time we shall here from our highly respected correspondent who is at this time only a transient resident of our State, but ere long will we trust make it his permanent home.

#### Answers to Correspondents.

R. D. W. Cross Hill—Is informed we have none of the Donrah Corn nor has Maj. Maxwell any to spare, he procured his seed in your district from Gen. Wright, we think.

MR. IYERSON, Columbus Ga.—Writes us (Jan 25th.) "My Grass is now 16 inches high; and is the wonder and admiration of all who see it. It is beautiful and green but nothing yet what it will be—or would have been if I had sown the seed in July instead of in the fall. I am well satisfied

my grass is the great discovery of the age, for the South. It and our Pot can make the south the Eden of the world \* \* I fear my seed will not hold out to supply the great demand. But we will hope for the best." And so do we with all our heart for this is surely most encouraging evidence in favor of the "rescue" 16 inches high on the 25th of January!! Well if this be a "humbug" we would like to be humbugged with a fifty or hundred acre field of it.

H. F. P. Abbeville S. C.—"How should Guano be used in Gardens? Any information on the subject will be gratefully received by your subscriber."

Your letter was received too late to be answered in our last number. We would prefer spreading Guano broadcast at the rate of two or three hundred pounds per acre, and spading or plowing in, in the first preparation of the ground. You may however put it in the drills not allowing contact with the seed when sown or planted. It would be well to mix with leached ashes or charcoal dust immediately before using if intended for the drill especially. Or you may apply it to growing plants in water. By putting it to a barrel of 50 or 30 gallons of water to a gallon the Guano and stirring occasionally a day or two and at each time before using, you have a valuable preparation for growing plants. We apply it to drills in light trenches drawn along each side of the drill, or in a small hole on each side of a hill—not allowing the liquid to touch the tender plants and afterwards filling up the trench or hole. We think it probable that a quart of Plaster of Paris put into the barrel with the Guano would be to most plants a valuable addition, and to such as require much potash a light sprinkling of ashes in the trenches before filling up would add much to the effects of the Guano which we presume does not contain much potash, and on this latter account we think Kettlewell's salts and Guano mixed in equal quantities (if you can get the honestly prepared article) would be a preferable fertilizer for a garden to Guano alone.

#### Notes.

L. G. GAMBRELL informs us he has cured two or three bad cases of bots in horses with a drench of water from a blacksmiths slack trough. He says the water will kill the grubs in a short time when put into it, which very few if any other liquids will do.



### The Oregon Pea.

The following account of the Oregon Pea is taken from a slip cut from a Tennessee paper which we find in our scrap drawer. We presume it has been sent us by some friend in a letter or we may have cut it from Fowik's Express of Memphis with which we exchange.

We received last spring from our esteemed friend Col. Gage of Union Dist. a few of the peas in a letter which we planted in our garden late enough to give them a fair chance to show that they did not much regard a drought, of which we were fully convinced when we saw them growing luxuriantly when every thing else around them was perishing and drying up. They yield abundantly but we found that the peas in pods that were allowed to lay on the ground but a short time after ripe in wet weather would mould and rot. And hence we are desposed to doubt their keeping qualities for stock. No doubt an abundance of provender may be made from them.—Eds. FARMER & PLANTER.

This pea grows on a plant from four to six feet high. They are a great luxury for the table and stock prefer them to corn—and for fattening hogs are superior to corn. They bear very full, and although so small, they grow so thick they can be gathered as fast as other peas. We saw them grow last year, dry as it was, head high and too in a hill, large and round as a hog's head. Their great utility is the stalk for hay, for which purpose its yield is equal to anything else in the shape of hay. They grow well, sown broadcast, either in the fall or spring; frequently lying on the ground all the winter, and come up in the spring, hence hogs can feed on them all the time. The hay is the best ever used by us for horses, cattle, or sheep. The leaves do not fall off in saving the hay. They will grow on the oldest and poorest land we have, and yield more peas than on better land, especially of a seasonable year. Last year there were but few planted in the United States. We heartily recommend them to all planters. They are in great demand wherever known.

Samuel Gilmore, Itawamba; Eph. Walker, Jno. Washburn, Eli T. Walker, Rev. Arch. Walker, Gabriel Washburn, Sampson Barber & Co., Jefferson Barber, Rev. T. W. Walker, E. W. Martin, W. R. Larremore, Stephen J. Larremore, Jesse T. Walker.

The above persons have had a knowledge of the growth of the Pea, some for five years, the balance three years. Here follows what some who have raised them this year, say of them:

We have raised the Oregon Pea the present year, and we are free to say that we have read all that has been published about them, and is true, and much more might be said. We will add: They will produce (on such land as would not be worth cultivation) more than can be produced on any land we have planted in anything else. One hand can save more hay than ten hands can save of fodder in the same time. We are decidedly of the opinion that it will improve land more than any thing that can be grown upon it, even when clover will not; for the oldest and poorest land is the place for them. We do believe that they are worth half the price asked for them, (i. e. \$2 00 per quart) for manure alone, and we wish it most distinctly understood that this Pea will produce best on old land, and will in our judgment reclaim the worst land we have any where.

Wm. Grant, Jno. M. Neil, Robert H. Grant, T. T. George, Esq., Richard Smith, Andrew C. Smith, McNairy county, Tenn., Col. N. C. Riggs, B. B. Adams, Purdy, Tenn.

The Peas are now ready for market, and may be had at \$1 per pint, or \$80 00 per bushel. Address, post paid Rev. B. J. Allen, Book Agent Memphis, Tenn., G. G. Adams, Bolivar, Tenn., or Jas. Martin, Hamburg, Tenn.

In addition to the above names we refer to H. D. Wilson, Sommerville, Tenn., Rev. J. Kesterson, Shelby county, Tenn.

All papers friendly to Agriculture will please copy. J. R. WALKER.

Rosstown, Shelby Co., Tenn., Nov., 52.

THE THRIFTLESS FARMER provides no shelter for his cattle, during the inclemency of the winter, but permits them to stand shivering by the fence, or to lie in the snow as best suits them.

He has a place for nothing and nothing in its place. He, consequently, wants a hoe or or rake, a hammer or an auger, but knows not where to find it. He and his whole household are in search of it, and much time is lost.

He has more stock than he has means to keep well.